

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A novel process for the recovery of a macrolide in substantially pure form comprising:
 - a) ~~treatment of treating~~ an impure or crude macrolide with water immiscible solvent to form a mixture,
 - b) optionally ~~concentration concentrating~~ of the mixture,
 - c) ~~treatment treating~~ with ammonia gas to phase out impurities,
 - d) ~~separation of separating~~ impurities,
 - e) optionally ~~concentration of concentrating~~ the a phase containing the macrolide,
 - f) loading on silica gel chromatography, wherein silica gel is optionally reversed phase or pretreated with silver, and ~~elusion of eluding~~ the macrolide,
 - g) affording the macrolide in the substantially pure form,
 - h) optionally ~~repetition of repeating~~ steps f and g to afford the macrolide in the substantially pure form.
2. (Currently Amended) A The process as in claim 1, wherein the macrolide is a member selected from the group consisting of tacrolimus, immunomycin or and sirolimus.
3. (Currently Amended) A The process as in claim 1, wherein the water immiscible

solvent is a member selected from a-the group comprising consisting of hydrocarbons,

heterocyclic compounds, ethers or and esters.

4. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, wherein the water immiscible solvents is a member selected from a-the group comprising consisting of benzene, toluene, hexane, ethyl acetate, isobutyl acetate or and butyl acetate.

5. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, wherein the macrolide compound is afforded by crystallization or precipitation.

6. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, wherein the crystallization is carried out using solvents selected from ethyl acetate, diethyl ether, acetonitrile, and or hexane.

7. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, wherein the macrolide is obtained by fermentation.

8. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, wherein the macrolide is obtained by synthetic process.

9. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, comprising:

a) treatment of treating an impure or crude macrolide with water immiscible solvent to form a mixture,

b) optionally concentration of concentrating the mixture,

c) treatment treating with ammonia gas to phase out impurities,

d) separation separating of impurities,

e) optionally concentration concentrating of -the phase containing the macrolide,

- f) loading on silica gel chromatography and ~~elusion-of~~eluding the macrolide,
- g) optionally concentrating ~~eoncentration~~ and mixing with the water immiscible solvent,
- h) affording macrolide in purer form,
- i) loading on silica gel chromatography pretreated with silver and ~~elusion-of~~eluding the macrolide,
- j) affording the macrolide in the substantially pure form.

10. (Currently Amended) A-The process as in claim 1, comprising:

- a) treating ~~treatment~~ of an impure or crude macrolide with water immiscible solvent,
- b) optionally concentrating ~~eoncentration~~ of the mixture,
- c) treating ~~treatment~~ with ammonia gas to phase out impurities,
- d) ~~separation-of~~separating impurities,
- e) optionally concentrating ~~eoncentration~~ of the phase containing the macrolide,
- f) loading on silica gel chromatography and ~~elusion-of~~eluding the macrolide,
- g) optionally concentrating ~~eoncentration~~ and mixing with water immiscible solvent,
- h) affording macrolide in purer form,
- i) loading on reversed phase silica chromatography and ~~elusion-of~~eluding the macrolide,
- j) affording the macrolide in the substantially pure form.